

MISS GRACE E. BAKER is the superintendent of St. Luke's hospital in Cedar Rapids, Ia. She became a subscriber to the JOURNAL while yet a pupil and has always been a quiet worker in its interests.

DR. ALICE M. SEABROOK was a graduate nurse before studying medicine. She is the superintendent of the Woman's Hospital, Philadelphia, and is very much interested in nursing progress in Pennsylvania.

MISS LUCY C. AYERS is a graduate of the Boston City Hospital, and is now the superintendent of nurses in Rhode Island hospital in Providence. She is one of the public spirited women who are working in the interest of state registration.

MISS MARTHA J. WILKINSON of Hartford, Conn., will represent the JOURNAL's interests in that state. Miss Wilkinson has the JOURNAL's future very much at heart and we shall look for more frequent contributions from Connecticut to its pages through her efforts.

MISS IDORA ROSE is a graduate of the Illinois Training-school and succeeded Miss McIsaac as superintendent of that school. She has been for a long time a quiet worker for the JOURNAL, but now consents to have her name placed in the list of those women who are recognized as its professional supporters.

MISS SWEENEY, Secretary of the San Francisco County Association, will represent the JOURNAL's interests in California.

## THE TRAINING SCHOOLS OF THE PACIFIC COAST

WE want it to be distinctly understood that we are not writing of the training schools of the Pacific Coast in a spirit of criticism. Our visit was too short, and such inspection as we were able to make entirely too superficial for us to presume to speak with either criticism or authority, but our visits, taken as a whole, made a distinct impression about which we think it possible some of our readers may be interested to hear.

At the present time, so far as we could learn, the majority of the schools on the other side of the Rockies, are in charge of women trained in the East, many of them women who had made a record in training school work before going to the West, the greater number having been in these positions only a short time. The notable exceptions to this, however, among the women whom we had the pleasure of meeting, were Mrs. Pahl, a graduate of the Illinois Training School, who has been at the head of the Good Samaritan Hospital at Los Angeles for

eleven years; Miss Loveridge, a graduate of Bellevue, who has been at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Portland, Oregon, for fifteen years, and Miss Hall, a graduate and former superintendent of the Seney Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y., who has been superintendent of the Seattle General Hospital, Washington, for five years.

So many of the hospitals that we visited or heard of had changed their superintendents within the year that we wondered if the movement for State registration was not resulting in a general reorganization of the Pacific slope schools.

The Western women who had been trained in Western schools impressed us as being especially fine specimens of womanhood; of course of their technical training we had no opportunity to judge but such women as Miss Genevieve Cooke, Editor of the Nurses' Journal of the Pacific Coast, Dr. Helen Parker Criswell, chairman of the legislation committee, and Miss Teresa McCarthy, secretary of the California State Nurses' Association, stand for all that is highest and best in our professional life.

We had an opportunity of meeting the pupils of several schools and it seems to us that from the standpoint of physical development they were superior, and in intelligence fully equal to the average pupils in the East.

There would seem to be no reason why Western schools, especially those organized and conducted by eastern women should not produce as fine a type of nurses as can be found anywhere; the only point of difference would seem to us to be in the spirit of commercialism to which we have previously referred, which seems to prevail in hospitals in that section of every class. It would seem almost impossible for pupils trained in hospitals that care for no charity patients, to have inculcated into them the highest motive which should dominate the nurse's life—the true spirit of philanthropy.

From the standpoint of our New England bringing up, any "Good Samaritan Hospital" that does no charity can hardly be fulfilling its mission.

We found in all of these hospitals, and most especially where the women at the head had not been long from the East, a very keen appreciation of this lack of provision for the poor, and we believe that these women cannot fail to exercise a very strong influence in changing the policy in many of these institutions. They have an unawakened public and a commercial medical attitude to combat, but the influence of a good woman must always be felt in a public institution.

In what are known as general hospitals, in which class are in-

cluded the church institutions, provision is made for some ward patients paying as low as seven and ten dollars a week, and it is from such training schools that the women who impressed us so favorably have been graduated.

The large "hotel" hospital training schools conducted by corporations of physicians are another problem; in these places money is the first consideration.

The argument used by the promoters of such schools is that nurses are to take care of the rich after they graduate and they can be best equipped in private hospitals where they have only the rich to serve. On the other hand we were told that those private patients could never be used as clinical material; that the head-nurses and superintendent never felt at liberty to go into a private patient's room to superintend the work of a probationer, and that it was quite impossible to watch the development of young nurses in the strictly manual part of their work because patients paying high prices objected to any supervision; a much to be deplored attitude both in the interest of the nurse and patient.

We were especially impressed as we went from city to city with the lack of comfortable provision made for the nurses when off duty, crowded dormitories and inadequate cottages being the ordinary makeshift. There were some notable exceptions, however.

The Children's Hospital in San Francisco has an exceedingly comfortable nurses' home; this is a large hospital caring for all classes of women and children.

The City and County Hospital of San Francisco has a detached nurses' home corresponding in its lack of comfort with the Hospital. The Fabiola Hospital in Oakland has an exceedingly pretty new building in the Mission style of architecture; the little hospital at Pasadena has a very comfortable little home which is fast becoming inadequate for its needs, and the Good Samaritan in Portland has recently completed a large and attractive home for its nurses.

We visited one very beautiful "hotel" hospital; but were not shown the nurses' quarters, and were told afterward that their apartments were arranged with "bunks" one above the other!

We were not invited to see the sleeping apartments of any of the large "hotel" hospitals which we visited, and we drew the conclusion that where "dividends" were so great a consideration, little money was expended either for the comfort or education of the nurses.

When the West awakens to a full appreciation of the needs of its people for hospital care and the whole great question of the training

of nurses, we believe the development will be more rapid and upon broader lines than that of the East; in most places the foundations are being well laid and there will not be so many traditions to overcome as in the older sections.

On our return journey we stopped at Spokane where we visited two exceedingly fine hospitals, one conducted by the Sisters, and the other St. Luke's, under the auspices of the Episcopal Church. In this city we found many eastern women and were most charmingly entertained.

Still nearer home we stopped at Minneapolis, where the same spirit of Western cordiality prevailed, and for two days were the guests of both St. Paul and Minneapolis nurses. A splendid gathering of women from both cities honored us by their presence at the meeting held in Minneapolis to consider the whole broad question of State Registration.

Our summers' journeying came to a close after a "week end visit" with Miss McIsaac and "Euphemia, Tom and Billy" at the New Cranford, where we found all of the romance of surroundings and the charm of a peaceful home which Miss McIsaac has so graphically described in her sketches.

We gathered up the lines of the Journal work and turned our faces finally homeward, with the consciousness that we were closing one of those very rare experiences that comes to few women in a lifetime. We had entered city after city to be met by a host of cordial strangers, and had departed each time with the regret that one feels in leaving long tried and loving friends.

Such has been the influence of our dear "Journal" that there is no longer any East or any West in nursing but a great sisterhood of privileged workers who are united by a common motive, the alleviation of suffering and the uplifting of nursing standards.

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### TO OUR READERS.

We ask the indulgence of our readers for any errors or omissions in the present and the next few numbers of the JOURNAL.

Our publishers, with many other of the large publishing houses in the country, have been involved in the printers' strike and we feel very thankful to be able to get out the number with so little delay, knowing the great difficulties that have been overcome by our publishers in order to accomplish this.